

Page 12, line 3, after "obtained" please insert -- , --;
line 11, delete "was" and insert -- were --;
line 14, delete "Introducing" and insert
"Introduction of"; and
line 14, delete "in" and insert -- into --.

Page 13, line 25, after "disease" please insert -- , --; and
line 26, delete "seen" and insert -- in view of --.

Page 14, line 1, delete "are" and insert -- is --;
line 21, after "added" and "later", please insert --
, --; and
line 27, after "infection" please insert -- , --.

Page 15, line 4, delete "previuosly" and insert -- previously
--; and
line 5, after "EHV24" please insert -- , --.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1 - 15 without prejudice or disclaimer of
the subject matter thereof.

Please add the following new claims 16 - 43:

-- 16. An equine herpesvirus (EHV) mutant, comprising one or
more deletions, substitutions or insertions introduced into the
endogenous promoter region of an essential viral gene. --

-- 17. The EHV mutant of claim 16, wherein one or more deletions
are introduced into the promoter region. --

-- 18. The EHV mutant of claim 16, wherein the gene is the
Immediate Early gene. --

-- 19. The EHV mutant of claim 16, wherein the mutant virus is the EHV-1 virus or the EHV-4 virus. --

-- 20. The EHV mutant of claim 16, further comprising one or more mutations in one or more other genes and/or their promoters. --

-- 21. The EHV mutant of claim 16, comprising a deletion of the SacI-SacI fragment, the HindIII-ClaI fragment, the NdeI-NdeI fragment or the SphI-SphI fragment of the promoter region of the Immediate Early gene. --

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-- 22. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising the endogenous promoter region of the Immediate Early gene from EHV and optionally one or more flanking sequences, which promoter region comprises a deletion of the SacI-SacI fragment, the HindIII-ClaI fragment, the NdeI-NdeI fragment or the SphI-SphI fragment, thereof. --

-- 23. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 22, wherein the EHV is EHV-1 or EHV-4. --

-- 24. A recombinant DNA molecule comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 22. --

-- 25. A host cell comprising the DNA molecule of claim 24. --

-- 26. A vaccine comprising the EHV mutant of claim 16 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent. --

-- 27. A vaccine comprising the EHV mutant of claim 17 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent. --

-- 28. A method for the preparation of an EHV mutant comprising

one or more deletions, substitutions or insertions in the endogenous promoter region of an essential viral gene, comprising the step of transfecting a cell culture with the DNA molecule of claim 24 and EHV genomic DNA. --

-- 29. A method of genetically attenuating EHV, comprising the step of mutating the endogenous promoter region of an essential gene, which mutation comprises one or more deletions, substitutions or insertions. --

-- 30. The method of claim 29, wherein the EHV is EHV-1 and EHV-4. --

-- 31. The method of claim 29, wherein the gene is an Immediate Early gene. --

-- 32. An attenuated equine herpesvirus (EHV) mutant, comprising one or more deletions, substitutions or insertions introduced into the endogenous promoter region of an essential viral gene. --

-- 33. The EHV mutant of claim 32, wherein one or more deletions are introduced into the promoter region. --

-- 34. The EHV mutant of claim 32, wherein the gene is the Immediate Early gene. --

-- 35. The EHV mutant of claim 32, wherein the mutant virus is the EHV-1 virus or the EHV-4 virus. --

-- 36. The EHV mutant of claim 32, further comprising one or more mutations in one or more other genes and/or their promoters. --